

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

**May 6, 1996**

A Special Meeting of the Annapolis City Council was held on May 6, 1996 in the Council Chamber. Mayor Hopkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Alderman Gilmer offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present on Roll Call: Mayor Hopkins, Aldermen Hammond, Johnson, Gilmer, Tullier, Snowden, DeGraff, Moyer

Staff Present: City Attorney Goetzke, Public Works Director Patmore

*Pursuant to the requirement of Maryland Annotated Code, State Government Article Section 10-509(c)(2), this statement is included in these minutes:*

*A closed session of the City Council was held at 6:31 p.m., Monday, May 6, 1996 in the City Council Chamber*

*Members Present: Mayor Hopkins, Aldermen Johnson, Tullier, Snowden, DeGraff, Moyer, City Attorney Goetzke, Finance Director Sulick, City Administrator Prehn, Consultant Jim Lindsey and City Clerk Bembe.*

*By unanimous consent of the members present, the session was closed. The authority under which the session was closed was Maryland Annotated Code, State Government Article, Sections 10-508(a)(7) and (8). The purpose of the meeting was to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation. The following action was taken:*

### ***FY97 Tax Differential***

*No action taken.*

\* \* \* \* \*

*Pursuant to the requirement of Maryland Annotated Code, State Government Article Section 10-509(c)(2), this statement is included in these minutes:*

*A closed session of the City Council was continued at 7:20 p.m., Monday, May 6, 1996 in the City Council Chamber*

*Members Present: Mayor Hopkins, Aldermen Johnson, Gilmer, Tullier, Snowden, DeGraff, Moyer, City Attorney Goetzke, Finance Director Sulick, Consultant Jim Lindsey and City Clerk Bembe.*

*By unanimous consent of the members present, the session was closed. The authority under which the session was closed was Maryland Annotated Code, State Government Article, Sections 10-508(a)(7) and (8). The purpose of the meeting was to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation. The following action was taken:*

### ***FY97 Tax Differential***

- 1. Alderman Tullier moved to explore the cost of retaining the University of Maryland to study certain issues relating to the tax differential. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.*
- 2. Alderman Snowden moved to send a letter to all citizens of the City*

*signed by the members of the City Council informing them of the proposed property tax increase and what it means and to encourage them to express their opposition at the County Council hearing on May 20, 1996. An unstamped postcard is to be attached in order for the citizens to voice their concerns to County Councilman Mulford. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.*

3. *Alderman Gilmer moved to request the City Attorney to consider obtaining an Attorney General opinion on whether the differential adjustment violates the tax cap. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.*
4. *Alderman Snowden moved to file suit against the County before it strikes its budget and to stay if settlement discussions continue. Seconded. CARRIED on voice vote.*

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Proposed operating budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 1997.

The following individuals spoke on the proposed budget:

1. Mark Leonie, Director,  
Archeology in Annapolis  
Washington, D.C.
2. Helen Chambers  
Representing Little VIP Learning Center  
1950 Drew Street  
Annapolis, Md. 21401

No one else from the general public spoke in favor of or in opposition to the proposed operating budget.

Mayor Hopkins declared the public hearing closed.

### **BUSINESS AND MISCELLANEOUS**

Alderman Snowden moved to continue the closed meeting held immediately prior to this meeting in accordance with Maryland State Government Article Section 10-508(a)(8) to discuss the following matter:

- (1) FY97 tax differential

Seconded. A ROLL CALL vote was taken:

YEAS: Mayor Hopkins, Aldermen Hammond, Johnson, Gilmer, Tullier, Snowden,  
DeGraff, Moyer

CARRIED: 8-0

The Council moved into closed session at 7:10 p.m.

**Patricia L. Bembe, CMC/AAE  
City Clerk**